

What is claimed is:

1. A distribution management system comprising:
 - a plurality of material suppliers;
 - a plurality of product processing factories for processing a product by using material provided from the material suppliers;
 - a delivery center for combining and transporting plural various materials transported from the plural material suppliers with material of a quantity required by the product processing factories to the product processing factories; and
 - a control center for
 - making a store order-estimation table so as to make an estimation regarding a quantity of a product to be ordered from a store and a quantity required to be produced by the respective product processing factories based on a prescribed information,
 - deciding a quantity of the respective materials to be ordered to the material supplier based on the store order-estimation table and ordering the quantity to the material suppliers, and
 - deciding a quantity of the respective materials to be supplied to the product processing factories and instructing the delivery center to deliver the materials to the respective product processing factories.
2. The distribution management system according to claim 1, wherein the delivery center is comprised of a single or plural primary delivery center(s) for gathering respective materials from the material supplier, and a plurality of secondary delivery centers for receiving material sent from the primary delivery center(s) and further transporting the material to the product processing factories assigned to the plural secondary delivery centers.
3. The distribution management system according to claim 2, wherein the primary delivery center also serves as the control center.
4. The distribution management system according to claim 3, wherein the primary delivery center grasps a total inventory including: reserve

production inventory having already been ordered for supply to the material supplier and reserve production inventory having already been produced at the material supplier, and transport inventory existing on a distribution route between the material supplier and the product processing factory;

wherein the primary delivery center compresses surplus inventory; and

wherein the primary delivery center adjusts an order quantity for the material supplier and a supply quantity for the product processing factory for enabling supply without any shortage.

5. The distribution management system according to claim 3, wherein the primary delivery center controls an ordering for each material by grasping a timing schedule regarding the material required from the product processing factory, and by considering a lead time starting from a time when each material is ordered to the material supplier to a time when the product processing factory orders an estimation to the delivery center.

6. A distribution management method comprising the steps of:

making a store order-estimation table to make an estimation regarding a quantity of a product to be ordered from the store and a quantity required to be produced by the respective product processing factories based on a prescribed information;

making a demand estimation data for each respective material by converting product based data into material based data based on the store order-estimation table;

making an order table organized into each material supplier by considering and revising the demand estimation data for at least the inventory of the respective delivery centers; and

ordering to each material supplier based on the order table.

7. The distribution management method according to claim 6, wherein the revision of the demand estimation data is performed with consideration of transport inventory existing on a distribution route for each material.

8. The distribution management method according to claim 6, wherein the ordering to each of the material suppliers is performed with consideration of a lead time

starting from a time when each material is ordered to the material supplier to a time when the product processing factory orders an estimation to the delivery center.

9. The distribution management method according to claim 6, wherein the ordering to each of the material suppliers is performed with consideration of inventory information of each material supplier and production plan information.